## SKADDEN, ARPS, SLATE, MEAGHER & FLOM LLP

FOUR TIMES SQUARE
NEW YORK 10036-6522

TEL: (212) 735-3000 FAX: (212) 735-2000 www.skadden.com

November 14, 2013

FIRM/AFFILIATE OFFICES BOSTON CHICAGO HOUSTON LOS ANGELES PALO ALTO WASHINGTON, D.C. WILMINGTON BEIJING BRUSSELS FRANKFURT HONG KONG LONDON моѕсом MUNICH PARIS SÃO PAULO SHANGHAI SINGAPORE SYDNEY TOKYO TORONTO VIENNA

## VIA HAND DELIVERY

Honorable Shira A. Scheindlin United States District Court Southern District of New York Daniel Patrick Moynihan Courthouse 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007

RE:

In re South African Apartheid Litig., Case No. 02-md-1499 (SAS):

Request for Dismissal of Claims against Rheinmetall AG

## Dear Judge Scheindlin:

We represent Rheinmetall AG ("Rheinmetall") in the above-referenced action. We submit this letter on behalf of Rheinmetall in connection with the November 7, 2013 Order of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit denying the plaintiffs' petition for rehearing and rehearing en banc. In light of that Order, as well as this Court's statements at the September 24, 2013 pre-motion conference, Rheinmetall respectfully requests that the claims against it in this action be dismissed. In support of this request, and without waiving its claim of lack of personal jurisdiction, Rheinmetall joins in the arguments set forth in the letters submitted on November 13, 2013 by Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP on behalf of IBM and Ford Motor Company, and Arnold & Porter LLP on behalf of Daimler AG.

Like Daimler AG, Rheinmetall is a foreign corporation that has been sued by the plaintiffs over alleged conduct that occurred entirely abroad. Therefore, based on the United States Supreme Court's decision in *Kiobel v. Royal Dutch Petroleum Co.* and the Second Circuit's decision in *Balintulo v. Daimler AG*, the claims against Rheinmetall should be dismissed. *Kiobel v. Royal Dutch Petroleum Co.*, 133 S. Ct. 1659, 1669 (2013); see also Balintulo v. Daimler AG, 727 F.3d 174, 194 (2d Cir. 2013) ("the defendants [in this case] can obtain the dismissal of all claims now that the Supreme Court in *Kiobel* has made clear that federal courts may not, under the

Honorable Shira A. Scheindlin November 14, 2013 Page 2

ATS, recognize common-law causes of action for conduct occurring in another country."); H'rg Tr. 16 ("[T]he Circuit has already dictated the opinion on extraterritoriality and corporate liability."). In addition, under the law of the Second Circuit, a corporation cannot be liable under the ATS. *Kiobel v. Royal Dutch Petroleum Co.*, 621 F.3d 111, 149 (2d Cir. 2010) (corporate liability cannot form the basis of a lawsuit under the ATS).

If the Court believes that a second pre-motion conference or formal briefing is required in order to dismiss Rheinmetall from this action, Rheinmetall is available for such a conference and will submit such briefing as directed by a briefing schedule of the Court.

Respectfully,

Robert E. Zimet

cc (by Electronic Mail):

Michael D. Hausfeld, Esq. Hausfeld LLP 1700 K Street, NW Suite 650 Washington, DC 20006

Paul L. Hoffman, Esq. Schonbrun DeSimone Seplow Harris & Hoffman LLP 723 Ocean Front Walk Venice, CA 90291

Jay Jacob Rice, Esq. Nagel Rice, LLP 103 Eisenhower Parkway Roseland, NJ 07068

Judith Brown Chomsky, Esq. Law Office of Judith Brown Chomsky P.O. Box 29726 Elkins Park, PA 19027 Honorable Shira A. Scheindlin November 14, 2013 Page 3

> Tyler Giannini, Esq. International Human Rights Clinic Harvard Law School Pound Hall Room 401 1563 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, MA 02138

Michael F. Osborne, Esq. 56 Keerom Street Cape Town 08001 S. Africa 558-7221

Linda P. Nussbaum, Esq. Kaplan Fox & Kilsheimer LLP (NYC) 850 Third Avenue 14th Floor New York, NY 10022

Carroll H. Ingram, Esq. Ingram & Associates P.O. Box 15039 Hattiesburg, MS 39404-5039

All Defense Counsel